

RESEARCH and analyses

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HIGHLIGHTS

- In 2007-2008, 90% of FRSQ training awardees and 95% of FRSQ career awardees worked on research subjects that fit into one of the four priority themes identified during strategic planning for 2007-2010.
- From 2005-2006 to 2007-2008, the proportion of training awardees and career awardees working on research subjects **outside of the four priority themes** decreased by half (from 20% to 10% and from 12% to 5% respectively).
- These data confirm the fit between, on the one hand, the FRSQ's priority themes and, on the other hand, the fields of interest of its training awardees and career awardees.

AWARDS AND GRANTS

The FRSQ's research priorities in training award and career award competitions from 2005-2006 to 2007-2008

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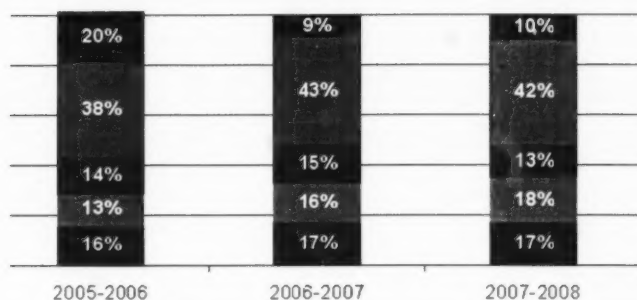
As part of its strategic planning for 2007-2010, the FRSQ defined the following four priority research themes at the crossroad of Quebecers' healthcare needs and Québec's strengths in health research:

- **Neurosciences and mental health**
- **Aging and loss of autonomy**
- **Cancer**
- **Obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular diseases**

For each of these themes, narrower and occasionally overlapping sub-themes covering particularly acute health issues were established. In addition, a number of broader themes spanning the four priority research themes were selected.

The two figures on the next page present the distribution of training awardees and career awardees, by priority research theme, from 2005-2006 to 2007-2008.

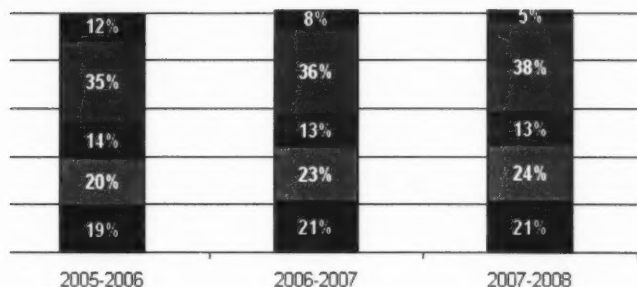
Figure 1 – Distribution of training awardees* (including new awardees), by FRSQ priority theme



Source: FRSQ, as at 23 May 2007.

* Master's and doctoral awards (including awards for applicants with a professional degree and awards for medical students) and postdoctoral awards (including professional postdoctoral training awards or fellowships and international exchange awards).
Note that, on average, 11% of awardees worked on research subjects that dealt with both neuroscience and aging.

Figure 2 – Distribution of career awardees* (including new awardees), by FRSQ priority theme



Source: FRSQ, as at 23 May 2007.

* Research scholars – Junior 1 and 2, Senior and National.
Note that, on average, 7% of research scholars worked on research subjects that dealt with both neuroscience and aging.

LEGEND



Stable trends in priority research themes

For training award programs and career awards programs alike, the distribution of priority research themes remained relatively stable in the past three years.

However, there was a slight increase for:
(1) neurosciences, mental health and addictions, and
(2) obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular diseases.

Marked decrease in the research projects outside of priority themes

Alongside this, the "Other" category, comprising research subjects outside the FRSQ's four priority research themes, dropped by half during the same period, for training awardees (from 20% to 10%) and career awardees (from 12% to 5%) alike.

The outcome is denser concentration around the research themes deemed priorities by the FRSQ, which is proof of a natural trend in training awardees' and career awardees' fields of interest and of the relevance of the themes identified during the FRSQ's strategic planning for 2007-2010.